

REMARKS

Upon entry of the current supplemental amendment, claims 1-13 will remain pending in the above-identified application and stand ready for further action on the merits.

In the instant amendment, claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the recited reaction temperature is at a "temperature of from room temperature to the melting point of (a) at which component (a) is in a solid state".

The amendment to claim 1 finds support in the original filed specification at page 13, line 20 to page 14, line 23.

The amendment serves to further clarify that in the inventive process, the reaction temperature is maintained so that component (a) is in a solid state. In this way, Applicants are able to avoid a viscosity increase, which disturbs mixing with the modifier (b) and, in turn, smooth progress of the reaction.

CONCLUSION

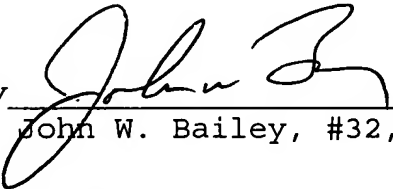
Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present supplemental response, he is respectfully requested to contact John W. Bailey (Reg. No. 32,881) at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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